

# B-VARC BULLETIN

The Monthly Publication of the BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Serving Fort Bend and Harris Counties

Editor in Chief:

Vincent Orlando, WA5ETS

774-7651 (0800-2100 hrs)

About the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club . . .

Organized in 1977, the club has been growing steadily. It is a gathering place for HAM radio operators in Fort Bend and Southwest Harris Counties, and surrounding communities. It is a general-purpose type of HAM club offering a variety of activities open to all interested persons. Membership is open, not only to licensed HAM operators, but also to anyone interested in the hobby. In addition to regularly-scheduled membership meetings, the club each year conducts classes leading to amateur radio licenses, and each month sponsors a volunteer-examiner team that offers examinations in all levels of HAM licenses.

To obtain information about the club and its various activities, please call the Houston Amateur Radio Helpline (713) 488-4HAM (488-4426). For information about joining the club, contact Randy Pollard AK5G: residence 729-6484 or work 224-3930.

Volume: 15 Issue: 11

November 1992

### ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

From: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

P. O. Box 1630

Missouri City, Texas 77459

### **B-VARC MEETING SCHEDULE**

Thurs, Nov. 12 General Meeting

7:30 pm Sugar Land Community Center

Program: Election of Officers

& Chili Cookoff

Thurs, Dec. 3

**Board Meeting** 

7:30 pm

Missouri City Fire Station

Allen Mattis N5AFV 5314 Wigton Houston, TX 77096

# November 1992

SATURDAY	7. 7.30sm B-VARC Breakfast Sciolosm Hou Emergency Magnal Net 146.34 (9:30 on 3.905) 8:30pm C.W. 147.32 Hain Comm	74 7:30um B-VARC Breakfust 9:00um Hou Emergency Mgmt Net 146.84 (9:30 on 3. 905) 8:30pm C.W. 147.32	7.30mm R-VARC Breatfail 3.00mm Sidewalk Sale 9.00mm Hou Environcy fegral Net (46.84 (9:30 on 3.903) 8.30pm C.W. 147.32	28 7:30am B-VARC Breakfast 9:00am Hou Emergency Mgrst Net 146.84 (9:30 on 3. 905) 8:30pm C.W. 147.32	
FBIDAY	1 1	13 Have you mailed your ARRL ballot?	82	27	
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	WEONESDAY  4 8:00pm B-VARC RAG-CHEW 3.960 (Busy? +3 Kbz)	11 8:00pm B-VARC RAG-CHEW 3.960 (Busy? +3 Khz)	18 8:00pm B-VARC RAG-CHEW 3.960 (Busy? +3 Kbz)	25 8:00pm B-VARC RAG-CHEW 3.960 (Busy? +3 Khz)	
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	1 7:30pm, South Texas ARES Net 3.873	B 1:30pea Texas State RACES Net 7.248 7:30pen South Texas ARES Net 3.873 Ham Comm	15 7:30pm South Texas ARRS Not 3.873	22 22 Warney Run 1:30pm Toxas State RACES Not 7:248 7:30pm South Texas ARES Not 3,873	7:30pm South Texas ARES Net 3.873

### Notes From The President . . . by Randy Pollard, AK5G

that is B-VARC? We are an organization of people who like to talk and socialize. We are not a DX club. We are not a 10-Ten club or a QCWA club or an Extra Class club or a breakfast club or a contest club or a special event club or a repeater club or a ... club. Our club is not any one of these clubs, but we are all of these clubs. We all like to meet and talk about every topic under the sun. How do we keep things going? The answer is member involvement. Help with some of our events. Go up to Vincent, WASETS, our newsletter editor and say "I would like to write an article for next month's newsletter." Go up to Steve, N5JBL, our public service liaison and say: "I will chair the next public service race that our club plans to work." Go up to Randy, AK5G, and say "I will plan a monthly meeting program." All in all, it is help, cooperation, and the willingness to step forward that makes this the best club in Texas!

The November meeting will be our annual elections and chili cookoff. If you are interested in an office, please contact N5AFV. Those wanting to help in the chili department (chile, plates, spoons, drinks, bread, "elaids, tabasco, etc.) should contact N5KXU or AØTEN. The December meeting will feature Terry Onda KI4FO who will speak on and demonstrate the topic of "electrostatics."

Finally, please be thinking of people that you feel should be recognized and then submit nominations for B-VARC's special awards: The Order of the Key, The Dr. Bill Award, or The Loop and Zep Award. Nominations should be in writing and given to me by the December meeting.

73 de AK5G

# The World of 10-10 International by Al Mattis, N5AFV

The long awaited winter propagation season is finally here, and ten meters has had some spectacular openings. Both DX and stateside stations have been asy to work at times. Unfortunately, there are still periods of poor propagation, and the current solar cycle will not be remembered for consistent and reliable communications on the HF bands. With the increase in activity on the band, 10-10 paper chas-

### **B-VARC RAG CHEW CHECK-INS**

3.960 MHz 8:00 pm Wednesdays Compiled by Melvin Thatcher KB5ION

### October 7, 1992

KBSION NCS, NSUOG, WSIHY, NSNXS, KISSC, WSEFB, NSKXU, NSCPA, KISCE, WASETS, NSWMB, NSYKR, KGSKV, KBSUSL, KISFO, KAØTEN, NSOAC

### October 14, 1992

KB5KON NCS, N5UOG, W5EFB, N5AFV, KE5SR, W5HY, KI5SC, WA9YNJ, KG5KV, N5FLQ, KB5DNT, WA5SCE

### October 21, 1992

KB5ION NCS, K5HQR, W5HY, KE5SR, KI5SC, KB6USL, N5CPA, WA5SCE, W86SRN, W5GHK, N6AFV, KB6LFU, WA9YNJ, N5KXU, KG5KV, KB5DNT, KI5CE, N5UOG, N6YKR

### October 28, 1992

KBBION NCS, KBBION, KISCE, WBBSRN, KBBLFU, WASETS, NBAFV, KBSUSL, WBIHY, KBBDNT, KISSC, KGSKV, NBYKR, WBGLD, NBKXU, NBUOG

ers have been active. Two new chapters have been formed; the Coffee Cup Net and the Tin Lizzy. Look for paper chasers at 28.345 MHz in the novice/technician portion of the band, and on 28.825 MHz in the general portion of the band.

The election for the 10-10 International Board of Directors is over, and the Great Smokey Mountain Chapter has completed counting the ballots. There were eleven candidates running for five positions. The winners were: WA9TSG from the state of Wisconsin, W9WYN from Illinois, K4CIH from Alabama, WB2SJQ from New York, and WØERZ from Missouri. Dave Prichard, KA5OVO, from Houston, finished seventh in the election and did not win a seat on the board. Prichard is the Supply Manager of 10-10 International.

The results of the 1Ø-1Ø International Summer Phone QSO Party will soon be announced. The QSO Party was held August 1-2, 1992, and is being scored by the Suncoast Chapter in Florida. The Houston S.H.O.T. Chapter made an effort to win the contest, but local participation was down compared to previous contests. The contest results will be in the next 1Ø-1Ø International Newsletter which should be mailed to 1Ø-1Ø members during late

October. A summary of the contest results will be included in this column next month.

The Houston S.H.O.T. net meets every Tuesday evening at 8 pm local time on 28.488 MHz. All amateurs are welcome to check in, even if they do not have a 10-10 number. If you are not a member of 10-10 International and wish to join the organization, please check in to the net. There are a lot of exciting activities in 10-10, and many friendly people can be found on the 10-meter band.

73 de N5AFV

### B-VARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, October 1, 1992

by Paula Holcombe, N5ULY Recording Secretary

B-VARC was well represented at Houston Ham Comm. While there, Randy Pollard proposed and later designed and printed a schedule of local clubs, contacts, meeting datas, repeaters, etc. with a full map indicating locations of all clubs on the back. These will be included in the Houston Ham Comm flyer next year.

All looks hopeful for the club's request for a meeting room for the next year in the Sugar Land Community Center.

There was an overwhelming (and much appreciated) response to requests for volunteers to assist with the Brazos Bend race.

Plans are proceeding well for the 25k race which will be November 22nd.

Novice classes are to begin October 19th, and turnout promises to be good for this class as there have been many inquiries already.

### December Bulletin Deadline

Articles and other material destined to be printed in the December issue of the B-VARC Bulletin should be submitted by no later than November 25th. Please send the material to Vincent Orlando WASETS; 8900 Bellaire Boulevard; Houston, Texas 77036-4699 or FAX (713) 774-6427.

### Low Band Excitement by Al Mattis, N5AFV

A number of B-VARC members have recently be come interested in the long wave band which consists of the frequencies below 540 Khz (below the AM broadcast band). This band has a number of different uses, and some serious experimentation and research is underway on these low frequencies. Some of the current spectrum uses are maritime and seronautical mobile and radio navigation, military communications. LORAN and Omega navigation, time standard stations, European and African broadcast stations, and even a 30-Khz wide experimental radio band. Various long wave aspects will be discussed in a series of future articles, but let's take a look at what has already caught the interest of some club members.

A large portion of the long wave band is occupied by aeronautical and maritime radio-navigation beacons. This frequency range is useful for these beacons because changes in the ionosphere due to solar flares do not have a significant effect on long wave propagation. There are over 7,500 non-directional beacons (NDB's) in North America that operate 24 hours a day with power ranging from 10 to 2,00° watts. The beacons identify continuously in slow. CW, and are located at airports and key maritime focations. A radio listener with the proper equipment can log hundreds of these beacons. In the last 5 weeks, I have logged 103 beacons in 13 states and 7 foreign countries.

A number of B-VARC members have been helpful to me. WB4LZG, KB5KLY and WA5ETS provided me with useful information from an aviator's viewpoint. N5UOG and WA5OEN are also monitoring long wave

	Belected Nor	-Directional Bescons
Khz	[dentifier	Location
269	AAP	Andreu, Houston, TX
296	Q	Calveston, TX
326	JY	IAH, Houston, TX
330	CZM	Cozumel, Mexico
533	u	Little Rock, AR
571	TS	Memphis, TM
579	HS	IAH, Houston, TX
582	VKS	Vicksburg, MS
888	ADS	full, Sugar Land, TX
591	DDP	San Juan, Puerto Rico
595	HU	Hobby, Houston, TX
396	286	South Bimini, Bahamas
407	SWA	Swan Island, Honduras
418	CW	Lake Charles, LA
521	DWH	b. W. Hooks, Tomball, TX

beacons. WASOEN build a loop antenna to null QRM and enhance reception of the beacons. NSTGM and KSLTW are also interested in this project. If you we a receiver that covers the long wave band, you might want to join us. I have included a list of selected local and DX beacons. Monitoring the NDB's is one way to study long wave propagation. Watch in future editions of the B-VARC Bulletin for articles about the exciting long wave band.

### Results of the October Amateur Exams by Harold Parker, ND5F

B-VARC again sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examinations that were held on Tuesday evening, October 13, 1992, at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston.

> The V.E. Team Ron Grimes, WASSCE Henry Morrison, WSRIY Harold Parker, NDSF

### **Assistants**

Carl Albrecht, AA5JW Cass Germany, KG5IT

A total of twenty-three exams were administered during the evening to fourteen applicants. Three unlicensed candidates received their new "codeless" Technician licenses. Two others upgraded with a total of thirteen elements passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was fifty-seven percent.

Congratulations to all the following who upgraded and/or passed exams:

Matthew Erickson — Technician
Melanie Erickson — Element 2
Casey Haley, KB5UEO — Element 3B
Charles Hluchan, N5XVY — Technician
Steven Johnston — Technician
Allen Lapley — Technician
Herman McKinney, Pending — Elem 3B
Howard Russell, N5XGT — Elem 3B
Ronald Smith, Pending — Bern 3B
Willard VanDevender, KJ5FN — Extra

Many thanks to all the Team Members and Assisants who volunteer their valuable time and effort each month.

All of us at B-VARC again thank Vincent, WASETS, and everyone at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory

for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

73's ... ND5F

### B-VARC To Provide Race Communications by Al Mattis, N5AFV

The second race of the GAAC marathon warm-up series will be held on Sunday morning, November 22, 1992. The 15.5 mile race, which begins at 7 am, will be held in downtown Houston.

Providing communications for this race will provide a real challenge to our club. Much of the race preparation, and possibly even the start, will take place before daylight. There will be restricted access along the race course, and parking along the course will be limited. The water stations will have only bottled water, with no access to running water. It is anticipated that there will be between 1500 and 2000 runners. All of these factors make our amateur radio communications vital to providing a safe event for the participants and spectators.

Larry Wilson, N5YYP, and 1 will be contacting all B-VARC members who expressed an interest in working this event. If you have not signed up to work the race, you may still do so by contacting me at (W) 752-5752 or (H) 721-3637. Larry and I look forward to working with many of you on November 22nd.

### On The Bands by Randy Pollard, AK5G

October was a busy month ... Thanks to N5KXU ... Thanks to KB5DNT and WB4LZG .. BIG thanks to Doug (KE5SR) and Marie Holly for the FB picnic ... Saturday breakfasts average about 35 people now; don't be late! ... N5VRP held up by N5VRR; the "V" boys are at it again. ... New novice class up and going strong thanks to N5APW and WB4LZG and others ... N5UOG has meeting rooms for next year lined up. ... The Houston Ham-Comm will be November 6, 7, 8; BE THERE and be sure to wear your

B-VARC shirt! ... Still monitoring? ... Ducting again on 2-meters. ... HF bands seem to be in good shape. ... Remember that our January meeting will be our annual awards banquet. ... Renew your membership NOW for 1993. ... Call NSAPW for phone patch, not me. ... Call WB51BT for change of address, not me.

73 de AK5G

# Elections to be Held at November Meeting Al Mettis, N5AFV

Election of the 1993 B-VARC officers will take place at the November 12, 1992 general membership meeting. The program for the meeting will consist of the election and a chili social. A special thank you to Betty, KAØTEN, and Bill, N5KXU, who have volunteered to coordinate the chili and refreshments for the meeting. Please help them out if you are able, and make the meeting a success.

At the meeting, we will elect a president, vicepresident, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer and a 3-year director. The club bylaws require that the president have a general class or higher amateur radio license. All other club officers must hold at least a technician class license. There is no requirement regarding minimum time as an amateur radio operator or B-VARC member for any of the offices.

The club bylaws provide for a nomination committee composed of past presidents of the club. It is my duty as the immediate past president to chair this committee. The nomination committee wishes to announce the following candidates for the 1993 offices:

FOR PRESIDENT — Betty Wilcox, WADTEN

FOR VICE PRESIDENT — Doug Holley, KESSR

FOR TREASURER — Sam Wilson, N5CPA

FOR RECORDING SECRETARY Bud King, N5UOG

FOR CORRESPONDING SECRETARY — Vincent Orlando, WASETS

For Director —
Glenn Edwards, WB4LZG
Victor Richard, N5NAS

The nomination committee emphasizes that nominations are still open. If you are interested in running for an office, or if you know another club member who would make a good officer, please contact an member of the nomination committee.

### 1992 B-VARC Nomination Committee

Allen Mettie, NBAFV . . . . . (H) 721-3637 (W) 752-5752 Bill Dessene, NBKXU . . . . . (H) 721-1844 (W) 782-1212 Jack Van Demerk, WN5A . . . (H) 495-1121 (W) 831-2788

Nominations from the floor will also be accepted at the election meeting. Please participate in the election process, and we look forward to seeing you on November 12th.

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	. 19	92 ATTENDANCE ROSTER						
	R.V	VARC GENERAL MEETINGS				WA5ZIB	Andy MacAllister	1
	<u></u>	AND GENERAL MEETINGS				KBSUEE	Leonardo Magallon	
	<i>r</i> .		Α	· ·		N5AFV	Al Mattis	, ,
			U	_	C	KASDKS	Ken McAninch	
			G	P	т	N5UGG	Excem McCasland	17
	AA5JW	Carl Albrecht			,	N7ZBV	Mike McCasland	ンシ
	K85USR	Mike Arnett		,	•	KGBJCM	Scott McCasland	7
2	W4FBG	Dick Atkinson	,				lan McNeill	• ,
İ	N5KXA	Richard Baker	٠,		٠,	WBSUTM	Scott Merryman	111
ľ	WA2EJO	Robert Berger	•		,	N5WLY	Robert Mayers	* 7 7
ļ	WENRJ	Bill Braunig			•	<b>N5YKS</b>	Terry Michhimer	"
	AA5ZK	Bob Brigham		•		AASLF	Steve Moynihan	12
	KB5KLY	Don Brown, \$r.	٠,			NSRBT	Art Neumeyer	7.7
	KB5SWH	Don Casaling	•	٠,		WASETS	Vincent Orlando	* *, ,
		Phil Cates		•		NDSF	Harold Parker	, , ,
	N5OUZ	Lawrence Cox	•			KBSLFU	Roger Pokladnik	5 7 7
	WB5YOD		1		1	AK5G	Rendy Pollard	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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	NSOUZ	Tom Comstock		1			Lanny Potest	· ·
		Lawrence Cox		1		KG5KV	Charles Prochaska	<b>Y</b>
	N5TGN	Alan Crawford	1		1	NSYKA	Michael Ricco	11
	14/4 OF AT	Richard Culver	-	1		N5NAS		111
	WA3PMT				/	N5XGT	Vic Richard	. 🗸
	N5KXU	Bill Dessens		1	1	140701	Gene Russell	· ·
	WA5F	Ray Dillard		1		KASTUQ	Eddie Saifi	. /
	N5JBL	Stephen Dunkelberger	1	1		N5YYN	Don Schexnailder	< _
	WB4LZG	Glenn Edwards	1	1	1	K5HFY	Kelly Scott	✓.
	KB5KLH	Melania Edwards			1	N5URI	Claude Sessions	11
	W5LK	Ed Evans		1	1	NOON	Guy Shechter	/
	5XVZ	Rich Fitch			1	NECDI	Bill Shirk	✓
	N5KAB	Greg Gatterson		1		N5SDL NEDDC	Stave Shirk	✓
	WASCEN	Steve Gottlieb			1	N5PRC	Steve Skelton	/
	KB5LDY	Carl Hacker		1		N5YJF	Dutty Slade	✓
	N5VRR	Don Hadley			1	KBSEXM	Iry Smith	/
	N5LCY	Betty Haw		1		N5WMA	Oraida Starr	111
	N5VRR	Don Hadley	1	5.42		N5XWD	Don Stevenson	11
	N5VCX	Mike Hardwick		1		KBSURT	Esther Stiver	11
	N5YKW	Edd Hendee		1		N5TGM	Frank Stiver	/
	N5XHF	Ben Hertzog	1			NSRKM	Ted Sumerfin	1
	N5JQH	Paul Holcombe	1			N5RPQ	Tony Summerville	✓
	KESSR	Doug Holley	1	1		K5DIY	Joe Tarrant	/
	N5YKV	Marc James	:70	· .	1	KBSION	Melvin Thatcher	111
	W5EFB	Jim Jeffries	1	1	₩.		Raymond Tittany	✓
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	KG5CB	Bill Kemp		,	-	KB5UWI	Don Tipton	
	N5XGW	Charles Keng	1	•		KD5JC	Ed Truitt	1
	KB5USX	Danile Kerr		1		WN5A	Jack Van Demark	11
	N5UOG	Bud King	1	· .	,	WB5IBT	Don Wade	111
		Janis Kinghaf	1	,	T .	N5XWB	Donn Washburn	1
		Greyson Knapp	1	,		N5ZUE	Gerald Webb	,
	N5VCZ	Claudia Kozinetz		,		KF5ZL	<b>Bob White</b>	1 1
	W5IHY	Lou Kronberg	,	,	,	KISOT La	wrence Whitehead	7
	NEOUT	Dick Kruse	,	•	•	KADTEN	Betty Wilcox	111
	KJ5BG	Bob Kunesh	•	,		N5YYP	Larry Wilson	111
1	105C	Elton Kytle	, '			N5CPA	Sam Wilson	111
	NSPTN	Michael Lay	*	,		WBSSHU	Clem Winford	• 5 *
		Patricia Layton	•	•	_	W5GLD	Frank Wood	, *
	KB5TIB	Thomas Layton	,	, *	,	KK5W	Al Zermeno	111
	WD5DRB	Larry Levy	٠, ٠	,				* * *
	KI5CE	Glenn Lewis	1				TOTAL:	48 71 48
		Cidiul FRMI2				ozer o		

# 1992 B-VARC PUBLIC SERVICE HONOR ROLL

Compiled by Stephen Dunkelberger, N5JBL

A. Houston Marathon B. MS 150 Bike Ride

C. Clean Air Challenge Bike Ride D. B-VARC Special Event Station

E. 20K Warmup Run

Albrecht, Carl	AA5JW B,E
Borg, Gerry	N5APW A,D
Brigham, Bob	AA5ZK B,D
Chambers, Marion	KB5PAJ E
Chambers, Marion	NECCE E
Chambers, Mike	KB5DNT A,B,C,E
Cheek, Ralph	N5XWT D
Clemmons, Bill	N5OUZ E
Cox, Lawrence	N5LYB D
Creel, Fred	KB5USL E
Culver, Craig	NSUNE B,D,E
Cypert, Tony	
Deaktor, Steve	WA3PMT D N5KXU A,C,D,E
Dessens, Bill	140147
Dillard Ray	
Dunkelberger, Steve	N5JBL D,E
Edwards, Glenn	AADAFFA
Edwards, Melanie	KB5KLH B
Edwards, Susan	KB5ICO A,B
Eilers, Wade	WN5TEN B
Ellers, Wade	N5XWO B
Estrella, Jesse	N5XVZ D
Fitch, Rick	N5HF A
Freedenberg, Henry	N5AYX A
Gordon, Irene	KB5LDY A,C,D,E
Hacker, Carl	N5VRR D
Hadley, Don	WB5SRN A,B,C,D
Hagerman, Dick	_
Hammer, Dave	1100-
Hardwick, Mike	140 1 4 1
Harris, Ron	N5MKO A,B,C
Herbert, Earl	WB1CCH E
Hughes, Kelly	N5ULZ A,E
Jackson, Emmet	N5RXN A
Kemp, Bill	KG5CB B,D
Kemp, bill	N5UOG A,B,C,D,E
King, Bud Kozinetz, Claudia	N5VCZ A,C,D,E
Kozinetz, Ciaudia	NOSC D
Kytle, Elton	N5PTN A,B
Lay, Michael	WD5DRB A.D
Levy, Larry	110001.5

Lewis, Glenn	KISCE D NSAFV A.D
Mattis, Allen	1101 11
Michhimer, Terry	N5YKS B
Morrison, Henry	W5RIY A
North, Max	N5TBI B,C
Onda, Terry	KISFO B,E
Orlando, Vincent	WASETS A,D
Parker, Harold	ND5F A
Pederson, Scott	KISDR A,B
Pokladnik, Roger	KB5LFU B,C
Pollard, Randy	AK5G D
Prochaska, Charlie	KG5KV D
Richard, Vic	N5NAS D
Rickets, Robert	N5JKD B,E
Rogers, Dennis	N5VRP B
Ross, Joe	AA5BD B
Shechter, Guy	N5URI C.D
Shechter, Goy	N5SDL A,B,D
Shirk, Stephen	N5PHL B,E
Shorthose, Ron	N5PRC D
Skelton, Steve	KB5EXM A
Smith, Irv	N5VTV D
Snitkin, Richard	N5PHM A,B
Stanley, Tim	N5WMA C,E
Starr, Oraida	KB5URT E
Stiver, Esther	N5TGM C,E
Stiver, Frank	KB5ION D
Thatcher, Mel	A F
Van Demark, Jack	WB5IBT A,B,D,E
Wade, Don	N5ZUE D,E
Webb, Gerald	KF5ZL A
White, Bob	nce KISOT C
Whitehead, Lawre	J73TW D
Williams, Tony	KAØTEN D
Wilcox, Betty	KASGHI B,C
Wilson, Bill	N5YYP E
Wilson, Larry	WB5SHU A,D
Winford, Clem	WESSEL NIE

Please report corrections or additions to N5JBL

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